Board Meeting Notes

Yadkin-Pee Dee Water Management Group

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM, April 15, 2026

Welcome & Attendance

A meeting of the Yadkin Pee-Dee Water Management Group Board of Directors was held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Alan Fowler called the meeting to order at 2:04PM. The following Board members and others were in attendance.

Alan Fowler, Chair
Gerald Faulkner, Secretary/Treasurer
Sam Call, At Large Representative
Mike Abney, At Large Representative
HDR Program Management: Sara Yeh, Katie Clatterbuck

Chairs Report

- Review of February 4, 2026, Board Meeting notes: no comments or changes were presented.
  - **MOTION**: Approve minutes of February 4, 2026 Board meeting as written; motion carried.
- Steve Nebiker has approached the group about presenting at an upcoming meeting.
  - Mr. Nebiker was involved in developing the current Oasis model that the basin uses and has some extensive knowledge of the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin.
  - The Board agreed that they would welcome Mr. Nebiker's presentation at the July meeting since the presentation for the May meeting has already been selected.
- Goals established during the YPDWMG strategic plan development were discussed. Specifically, beginning to re-engage the stakeholder advisory was reviewed.
  - Ms. Yeh provided background on the role of the stakeholder committee.
  - **ACTION:** Reach out to stakeholders and confirm their interest in remaining involved with the YPDWMG. (HDR)

Program Management Report

- Blewett Falls Tour Debrief
  - Board members discussed the most recent full membership meeting which was held at Duke Energy's Blewett Falls facility and included a tour of the fish passage facility.
    - The Board discussed posting photos of the group from the tour to the YPDWMG website to encourage member participation.
    - **ACTION:** Provide photos selected for posting to Mike Abney for Duke Energy's review and approval prior to posting. (HDR, Abney)
- NC Land and Water Fund Grant Update
  - The process has been initiated to get Mr. Gerald Faulkner added as the primary contact to replace Mr. David Czerr, previous secretary/treasurer, as the point of contact for the grant.
    - **ACTION:** Draft grant progress report for initial review by Mr. Faulkner and submittal to NC Land and Water Fund. (HDR)
- Action Register
  - HDR reviewed items in progress on the Action Register.
    - Audit and tax documents have been provided to Foard and Co. who is in process preparing the 2025 audit and tax documents. YPDWMG taxes are due May 15th.
      - NC Solicitation License renewal will be submitted upon receipt of tax documents.
    - The insurance policy annual renewal is upcoming in July 2026 so the Board reviewed options to adjust the group's coverage.

- The YPDWMG has carried at least liability coverage since inception as a 501(c)(3).
    - Options for additional coverage as presented by the insurance carrier were presented.
    - **ACTION:** Provide current insurance policy along with additional coverage option information to the Board for review (HDR).

Financial Management

- Financial Status
    - Gerald Faulkner provided an update on the current YPDWMG account balances and expenditures.
        - Recent payments were made to HDR for the WRP and Program Management Support contracts.
        - Total assets are currently $546,175.30.

Project Updates

- Water Resources Plan Phase 4b
    - Sara Yeh provided an update on the current Water Resources Plan (WRP) progress.
    - Due to technical difficulties at the March membership meeting, slides for the WRP update couldn't be displayed. Those slides have been posted to the website. Ms. Yeh provided some highlights from the slides.
        - Ms. Yeh discussed a modeled example of the High Rock Lake (HRL) Water Surface Elevation (WSE) over the drought of record period as compared to the critical water WSE. She displayed the impacts of an additional 525MGD withdrawal in addition to current water use.
            - This simulation showed that this projected water use would drop the WSE below the critical elevation.
                - The critical elevation was determined by the members' input on their intake critical depths.
                - An additional simulation was displayed showing the current water use plus the additional 525MGD use without the drought protocols simulated. This resulted in much more significant time spent with the reservoir WSE below the critical elevation.
            - This example, along with an additional in-depth description, will be reviewed with the membership at the May meeting.
    - Ms. Ginny Baker recently provided a report that DWR developed summarizing some of the Yadkin basin Oasis modeling that they have performed.
        - Very similar key metrics to what the YPDWMG has been reporting were included in the DWR report. This is good news as the YPDWMG will be able to easily compare their studies. The YPDWMG has simulated several additional scenarios that DWR has not yet reported on.
        - A potential future presentation to the membership may be requested from Ms. Baker to discuss the State's modeling efforts.

Upcoming Regular Meeting Preparation

- Meeting Logistics
    - The next Regular Meeting is currently scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2026 at Salisbury-Rowan Utilities. Lunch will be provided.
- Draft Agenda Content
    - The Drought Management Advisory Group (DMAG) Annual Meeting will be held at the beginning of the YPDWMG meeting with the regular YPDWMG business to follow.
        - The Board did not have any objection to allowing members of the general public to attend the DMAG meeting.
    - **ACTION:** Invite Ashley Hatchell from USACE to attend the May meeting and provide informal input on any drought protocols that the USACE has enacted. (HDR)
    - **ACTION:** Confirm Wilkesboro's availability to host the May meeting if Ashley Hatchell is based in the vicinity of W. Kerr Scott to encourage USACE attendance. (HDR)

Closing

- Next Board meeting: June 3, 2026, via Teams.
- Mr. Fowler adjourned the meeting at 3:02 PM.

Summary of Motions & Action Items

MOTION: Approve minutes of February 4, 2026 Board meeting as written; motion carried.

ACTION: Reach out to stakeholders and confirm their interest in remaining involved with the YPDWMG. (HDR)

ACTION: Provide photos selected for posting to Mike Abney for Duke Energy's review and approval prior to posting. (HDR, Abney)

ACTION: Draft grant progress report for initial review by Mr. Faulkner and submittal to NC Land and Water Fund. (HDR)

ACTION: Provide current insurance policy along with additional coverage option information to the Board for review (HDR).

ACTION: Invite Ashley Hatchell from USACE to attend the May meeting and provide informal input on any drought protocols that the USACE has enacted. (HDR)

ACTION: Confirm Wilkesboro's availability to host the May meeting if Ashley Hatchell is based in the vicinity of W. Kerr Scott to encourage USACE attendance. (HDR)